(b) Expenditure incurred upto 31.1.87 is Rs. 25.03 crores. The item-wise details are as follows:—

	(crores)
(i) Land	2·79
(ii) Civil Engineering	18·39
(iii) Mechanical Engg.	1·95
(iv) Electrical Engg.	1·39
(v) Others	0·51
TOTAL	25·03

(c) The factory is likely to be commissioned by March 1988.

(d) 635 people have been given *iresh* employment so far of which the number of local people (domiciled in Punjab) is 375 or 59 per cent.

Setting up of telecommunications commission

330. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a telecommunications Commission to take major policy decisions in this field in near future;

(b) if so, what will be its functions; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to take a leap forward to get on to-front line technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATTIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) tf5l RS—8. Government has not taken any decision to set up a Telecommunication Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

'(c) Government is encouraging self reliance and promotion of indigenous R&D efforts for better technology.

Steps to' Control Birth rate

331. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

' (a) what was the birth rate in the country during each of the last three years; -

(b) the target set in this respect for the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) what is the infant mortality rate during 1986;

'(d) what are the fresh steps contemplated *to* bring down the fate of population growth; and

(e) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce incentives and disincentivts for controlling population explosion:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) the estimates, of Birth Rate as available from Sample Registration System of Registrar Gentral, India for the latest three years, are given below: —

Year;	Birth Rate (per thousand population)
1983	33.7
1984	33·9
1985	32·7*

*Provisianal.